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SUPPLYING FARM WORKERS FOR WAR CROPS

To help farmers who are growing vital war crops get the workers they need, to help farm workers get jobs, the Government has worked out a new program. To the extent that funds will permit, the U. S. Employment Service will recruit workers and the Farm Security Administration will arrange to transport and assist in housing those who must be brought in from distances of more than 200 miles.

Here is how it works:

1. A farmer, who needs workers, applies to his local U. S. Employment Service office.
2. If not enough workers can be recruited within 200 miles, the U. S. Employment Service explains to the farmer the conditions under which the Government will bring workers in from a distance beyond 200 miles.
3. As a rule, workers will be transported only in groups of 100 or more, and only when they are needed for at least 30 days. These workers usually will be supplied for groups of farmers who have pooled their individual needs.
4. If the farmers want the Government to bring workers in, they sign a cooperative agreement with the Farm Security Administration, and show evidence of their ability to carry out their part of the agreement.
5. The conditions of this agreement are:
 - (a) The farmers will pay prevailing wages, which must not be less than 30 cents an hour or its equal in piece rates.
 - (b) The farmers will guarantee employment for at least three-fourths of the time they want the workers, with Sundays not counted as part of the working time.
 - (c) Where there are no Farm Security Administration migratory labor camps, the farmers will provide housing, which has been approved by FSA.
 - (d) Workers may buy food and other provisions any place they choose.
 - (e) The farmers will pay five dollars for each worker as their share of the transportation cost.

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6. The U. S. Employment Service finds out where there is a surplus of workers, and tells them about the job, about the wages to be paid, and how long the job will last.
7. For the workers who agree to take the jobs, the Farm Security Administration arranges:
 - (a) Travel by bus or train to the areas where they are to work, and back to their starting point when the work is done.
 - (b) Free food, and, if necessary, medical care, while traveling.
8. Workers agree to do the work they have been hired for at the wages the farmers have agreed to pay. Return transportation will not be furnished to workers who break their agreement.

How Prevailing Wages Are Determined

The prevailing wage rate in each area is determined by a wage board through public hearings. This board, appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture, will have four members: One from the War Manpower Commission, one from the U. S. Employment Service, and two from the Department of Agriculture.

Employment of Mexican Workers

Mexican workers may be brought in when there are not enough workers in the United States. The Mexicans will be hired and transported in the same way as workers in the United States.

Employment of Children

No children under 18 years of age will be transported unless they are members of workers' families. Under this program, arrangements will not be made for the employment of children under fourteen.